GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3389
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF SCS AND STS
PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a): whether Article 46 of the Constitution directs the State to promote with special care the economic and other interest of the weaker sections, particularly SCs and STs;

(b): if so, the steps taken in the interest of the SCs and STs in the field of economic activities by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers leading to transportation, storage, distribution and sale of chemicals and fertilizers; and

(c): if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The Fertilizers Companies under the administrative control of this Ministry engage handling and transport contractors and appoint dealers for sale of their fertilizers in the field of economic activities viz. transportation, storage, distribution and sale of chemicals fertilizers. The Government had issued instructions in September 1978 to public sector fertilizer manufacturing undertakings PSUs) to reserve 25% of all future appointment of dealers for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs). However, there are no such instructions for reservation in the case of transportation & storage of Fertilizers.

In so far as chemical industry is concerned, there is no administrative control on price, distribution and sale of chemicals.